

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABH BHAI KATHIRIA): (a) and (b) No specific exercise is presently underway.

Retirement age in PSUs

1016. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Hindustan Steel Works construction has reduced the retirement age of its employees from 60 years to 58 years;
- (b) if so, the number of employees retiring consequent to this decision of the Government;
- (c) whether Government proposes to reduce the age of retirement in some other Public Sector Enterprises also; and
- (d) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABH BHAI KATHIRIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 157 employees would retire during the current year as a result of this decision.

(c) and (d) As per existing guidelines, the Board of Directors of the concerned PSU with the approval of the Minister Incharge of the administrative Ministry can take the decision to reduce the age of retirement.

PSUs in Bihar

1017. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that all the Central and State PSUs in Bihar are incurring heavy losses and are on the verge of closure;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for such a state of affairs; and
- (c) what remedial action Government have taken or propose to take to save the PSUs of the State from closure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABH BHAI KATHIRIA): (a) to (c) Centralised data is maintained in respect of Central PSUs which are under the control of Central Government and no such data is maintained for PSUs under the control of State Government. As per PE Survey Report 1999-2000, which has already been laid in both the Houses of the Parliament on 27.2.2001, there are 12 operating Central PSUs, having their registered offices in the State of Bihar, viz., Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. (BCCL), Bharat Refractories Ltd. (BRL), Bharat Wagon & Engg. Co. Ltd. (BWECL), Central Coalfields Ltd. (CCL), Central Mine Planning & Design Institute Ltd. (CMPDIL), Engineering Projects India Ltd. (EPIL), Heavy Engineering Corporation (HEC), Metallurgical & Engg. Consultants (India) Ltd. (MECON), Projects & Development India Ltd. (PDIL), Pyrites, Phosphates & Chemicals Ltd. (PPCL), Ranchi Ashok Bihar Hotel Corp. Ltd. (RABHC) and Uranium Corporation of India Ltd., (UCIL). Of these 12 operating Central PSUs, two CPSUs viz., UCIL and CMPDIL have earned profits. Remaining 10 CPSUs have incurred losses during 1999-2000. The quantum of profit/loss made by these 12 CPSUs is available at Statement No. 6 of PE Survey 1999-2000 which is a published document.

Of the 12 operating CPSUs in Bihar, as on 31.12.2000, 4 CPSUs viz., BRL, HEC, PDIL & PPCL are registered with the BIFR. BIFR had sanctioned revival scheme for the first 3 CPSUs initially, however, the scheme has failed in case of PDIL and the case has been reopened. The fourth is under enquiry with BIFR.

The reasons for incurring losses or sickness vary from unit to unit and hence enterprise specific measures are taken by the Government for turn around of these PSUs. For sick industrial PSUs, BIFR is to take the final view. For other loss making PSUs administrative Ministry in consultation with management and workers of the PSU explore various options and devise appropriate measures for restructuring of the PSUs.

Revival of BOGL

1018. SHRIMATI CHANDRA KALA PANDEY: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to revive Bharat Ophthalmic Glass Ltd. (BOGL), Durgapur;

(b) whether in the BIFR hearing on 19th January, 2001, the Bench had asked Government to give a categorical commitment to inject funds to meet the